

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 00642 041234Z

47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /073 W

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R 041147Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1619

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

DIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PO

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PAGE 02 LISBON 00642 041234Z

SUBJ: SOCIALIST PARTY LEGALIZED

1. PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST PARTY BECAME LEGAL FEBRUARY 1 BY PRESENTING TO SUPREME COURT REQUIRED 5000 SIGNATURES NECESSARY TO COMPETE IN UPCOMING CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS. (6820 SIGNATURES OBTAINED BY SOCIALISTS IN TOTAL).

2. SOCIALISTS LAST MAJOR PARTY TO LEGALIZE ITSELF. MARIO SOARES BLAMED DELAY ON INTERNAL PROBLEMS RESULTING FROM RECENT SCHISM, AND ON FACT THAT A NUMBER OF SIGNATURES HAD BEEN ROBBED BY UNKNOWN PERSONS FROM PARTY MILITANTS.

3. COMMENT: AN AIDE TO SOCIALIST PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL MARIO SOARES TOLD EMBOFF THAT SOCIALISTS DID NOT BEGIN UNTIL THREE WEEKS AGO TO COLLECT SIGNATURES, WHICH REQUIRE ON AVERAGE MORE THAN TWO MAN HOURS OF LABOR EACH TO PREPARE IN APPROPRIATE LEGAL FORM. WHILE ADMITTING THAT FAILURE TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON COLLECTION OF SIGNATURES UNTIL ALMOST LAST MOMENT A SIGN OF SLOPPY INTERNAL PARTY ORGANIZATION, SOURCE SAID THAT FACT THAT PROCESS COMPLETED IN QUICK TIME ONCE STARTED SIGN OF SOCIALIST CAPACITY TO ACT DECISIVELY AND MOBILIZE MANPOWER ONCE ORDER GIVEN.

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